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RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2851

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Tomoharu HASE ) Examiner: H. NGUYEN  
Application No.: 09/145,982 ) Group Art Unit: 2851  
Filed: September 3, 1998 ) July 25, 2001  
For: EXPOSURE APPARATUS AND  
DEVICE MANUFACTURING METHOD  
INCLUDING GAS PURGING OF A SPACE )  
CONTAINING OPTICAL COMPONENTS )

Commissioner for Patents  
**Box AF**  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PETITION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a)

Sir:

Applicant petitions the Commissioner for Patents to extend the time for response to the final Office Action dated March 27, 2001 for one month from June 27, 2001 to July 27, 2001.

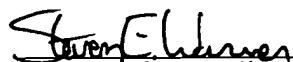
Submitted herewith is a check for \$110.00 to cover the fee for the extension under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. Any deficiency in or overpayment of this fee should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 06-1205. A duplicate of this petition is enclosed.

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Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attorney for Applicant  
Steven E. Warner  
Registration No. 33,326

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